

Annex B

EVACUATION

I. MISSION

To provide supplemental guidance and assistance to state agencies and to coastal localities for hurricane preparedness and response with an emphasis on the evacuation of residents from potential storm surge inundation areas in the Hampton Roads region.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

This plan addresses the procedures for coordinating an orderly evacuation should a hurricane threaten coastal Virginia. It does not replace or supersede any local plans nor usurp the authority of local governments.

The principal life saving strategy for dealing with a hurricane is to evacuate vulnerable low-lying areas that are subject to storm surge. Due to hurricane force winds, residents of mobile homes are also considered high risk and should evacuate. Other residents who choose not to evacuate should assess their individual/family situation as well as the potential impacts to their home and prepare to shelter in-place and prepare to be self-sufficient (*no power, water, gas*) for 3 or more days.

The specific path of an approaching hurricane cannot be predicted with certainty. The evacuation of urbanized coastal areas must be initiated well in advance--in some cases as much as **38 hours**, in order to be completed before the arrival of tropical storm conditions. Thus, the Governor and local officials have an inherent dilemma: to implement a “sunny day” evacuation in time for evacuees to travel to a safe area, or to wait, knowing that a delayed evacuation may result in a serious threat to public safety. Close consultation with the National Weather Service (*NWS*), National Hurricane Center (*NHC*), VEOC, and Emergency Operations Centers (*EOC's*) of adjacent and nearby localities will be required.

State agencies should prepare action checklists to facilitate emergency operations. Local hurricane response plans should also include detailed action checklists for each function as needed. These checklists will serve as a guide for actions to be taken as a storm approaches.

A. Virginia Emergency Operations Center (*VEOC*)

The VEOC, staffed by the Virginia Emergency Response Team (*VERT*), will be fully operational in the event of an approaching hurricane. It will:

- 1) Advise localities concerning State evacuation planning and other protective actions (*See Annex A, Direction & Control*). The VEOC will maintain a storm assessment capability, based on HURREVAC and the “decision arc” methodology presented in the Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Study and will be prepared to assist coastal localities in making an evacuation decision based on their mutual assessment of the storm.

Concept of Operations – Continued

- 2) Coordinate with Dept. of Social Services to facilitate the opening of State Managed Shelters for the reception and care of evacuees traveling inland and seeking safe destinations in public shelters as needed.
- 3) Maintain close and direct coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Transportation Operations Centers (TOC) in Richmond and Virginia Beach, North Carolina Emergency Operations Center (NCEOC) and with local Emergency Operations Centers (EOC's).

B. Other Agencies:

- 1) The National Weather Service (NWS) will detect a major hurricane in time for protective actions to be taken, to include the evacuation of residents from potential inundation areas if necessary.
- 2) The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Transportation Operations Centers (TOC) in Richmond and Virginia Beach will be fully operational and will work directly with the Virginia State Police (VSP) and local law enforcement officials to facilitate evacuation and traffic control.
 - i) If a large-scale evacuation is required, the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan will be implemented and monitored at the VDOT Transportation Operations Center (TOC) in Virginia Beach. (*Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan published separately*)
 - ii) This plan provides for a lane reversal option to support large-scale evacuations (*contra-flow*) as may be authorized by the Governor. Its operation may include liaison personnel from Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and other state/local agencies, as required. Its primary task will be to facilitate traffic movement in the event of a large-scale evacuation from Hampton Roads.
 - iii) The Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan identifies evacuation routes and limits access, based on the maximum capacity of each route. Evacuation routes will be monitored by the VSP. Local governments are responsible for traffic control within their jurisdictions.

C. Risk Population

- 1) The key persons who should evacuate are those who:
 - Live in potential storm surge inundation areas.
 - Live in mobile homes or sub-standard housing.
 - Are medically fragile – require water and or electricity to sustain life.
 - Are “transportation dependent” from the above referenced categories.

Concept of Operations – Continued

- 2) Other residents should assess their individual/family situation as well as the potential impacts to their home and prepare to shelter in-place and prepare to be self-sufficient (*no power, water, gas*) for 3 or more days.

III. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The organization and assignment of primary and secondary emergency response duties and responsibilities are listed in the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (*COVEOP*). Listed below is an appropriately coordinated extension of these task assignments as related to the hurricane hazard.

A. Governor

- 1) Declare a State of Emergency
- 2) Order a mandatory evacuation of hurricane risk areas. This authority may be delegated to other state officials or to local officials.
 - i) Authorize the implementation of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan as needed.
- 3) Direct the use of state personnel and resources as needed to assist local governments with emergency operations in the event of a major hurricane.
- 4) Request the assistance of the federal government as needed.

B. State Coordinator of Emergency Management, Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

- 1) Operate the VEOC and provide for a coordinated state-level response, on behalf of the Governor, to assist localities with hurricane response and recovery operations.
- 2) Serve as the Governor's executive agent in authorizing needed actions and expenditures.
- 3) Coordinate with federal government agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (*DHS/FEMA*) and the National Weather Service/National Hurricane Center (*NWS/NHC*).
- 4) Keep the Governor and other key state government officials informed about the status of emergency response and recovery operations.
- 5) Advise the Governor as to the recommended level of evacuation as appropriate for the threat.
- 6) Provide direction, coordination, control, and support in the implementation of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.

Roles & Responsibilities – Continued

C. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

- 1) Develop, update and maintain the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- 2) Implement the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan to manage the controlled evacuation of potential evacuees from storm surge inundation areas threatened by a hurricane.
- 3) Operate the VDOT Transportation Operations Center (*TOC's*) in Richmond and Virginia Beach. Keep the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (*VEOC*) and local Emergency Operations Centers (*EOC's*) advised of the traffic situation.
- 4) Coordinate the closure of vulnerable and/or impacted roadways and facilities such as bridges, tunnels, or flood-prone sections of roadway as indicated in the Transportation Emergency Operations Plan and implement other protocols for adjusting transportation resources to meet impending emergencies.
- 5) Coordinate the return of normal traffic patterns prior to the arrival of sustained tropical storm force winds.

D. Virginia State Police (VSP)

- 1) Assist with the implementation and serve as Incident Commander of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- 2) Expedite the flow of traffic out of the coastal areas during an evacuation.
- 3) Control access to evacuation routes during the evacuation.
- 4) Maintain order and security on designated evacuation routes.
- 5) Monitor the flow of traffic during the evacuation and keep the VEOC informed of the status.
- 6) Following the hurricane, and until essential services have been restored, coordinate with local law enforcement officials to control reentry and to provide for security in the devastated areas.

Roles & Responsibilities – Continued

E. Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)

- 1) Coordinate the management and operation of State Managed Shelters (SMS) per the COVEOP.
- 2) Provide status reports on the number of State Managed Shelters (SMS) open, the location of open shelters, the number of public shelter spaces occupied, and the number of public shelter spaces available.
- 3) Provide status reports on the requests and provision of resources for State Managed Shelter (SMS) operations.
- 4) Provide guidance and assistance with the establishment of congregate care centers and temporary housing facilities for people who cannot return to their homes in the devastated area.
- 5) Coordinate with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to provide pet sheltering.

F. Department of Health (VDH)

- 1) Coordinate state resources to assist localities with the evacuation and care of people with special health or medical needs. Health care facilities should prepare to be self-sufficient. If located in a storm inundation area, they should evacuate to a like-facility. If not, they should be prepared to be self-sufficient for several days without water or electric power.
- 2) Coordinate state resources to assist localities in providing water, food, and sanitary conditions in public shelters.

G. Department of Military Affairs (VDMA)

- 1) Assist with the implementation of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- 2) Assist VSP with expediting the flow of traffic out of the coastal areas during an evacuation.
- 3) Assist VSP with controlling access to evacuation routes during the evacuation.
- 4) Assist VSP in maintaining order and security on designated evacuation routes.
- 5) Assist VSP in monitoring the flow of traffic during the evacuation and keep the VEOC informed of the status.
- 6) Following the hurricane, and until essential services have been restored, coordinate with law enforcement officials to assist in controlling reentry and to provide for security in devastated areas.

H. Department of Motor Vehicles (VDMV)

- 1) Assist with the execution of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- 2) Coordinate the transport of essential goods and people over all modes in support of the VEOC during emergency operations and recovery.

G. Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)

- 1) Assist with the emergency sheltering of household pets and service animals.
- 2) Locate food sources and allocate appropriate supplies.
- 3) Assist VDH to ensure that areas impacted by the disaster are a high priority for the food safety inspections and verifications required by law.
- 4) Assist DGIF in the protection of endangered species.

IV. EVACUATION CONSIDERATION GUIDELINES

A decision to implement a mandatory evacuation in hurricane vulnerable coastal localities requires interaction and coordination between local, state, federal, and certain private sector entities. The primary goal of any evacuation is the preservation of life and, to the degree possible, protection of property. Local and state elected officials and governmental executive leadership must carefully balance the potential risks associated with both the decision to evacuate and the method for evacuating against the risk derived from these and other key factors.

There are several key indices that ultimately support the evacuation decision process. These are not exclusive and must be individually and collectively analyzed within a wide range of variables related to each specific hurricane event. There exists no single answer to the evacuation based upon an "empirical" scoring of these factors. Each event differs and must be evaluated on its own merits and characteristics.

Evacuation Consideration Guidelines – Continued

A. Indicators Requiring Evaluation

- 1) National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts including the degree of confidence between various models and forecasts.
- 2) Life/Safety threat posed by either a “go” or a “no-go” evacuation decision.
- 3) HURREVAC and SLOSH modeling including indicators concerning optimal decision timing in light of such factors as available daylight hours, occupancy, road capacity, expected public behavior, and projected flood and wind impacts.
- 4) Activities of neighboring states/communities, including potential impacts (*direct/indirect*) on Virginia’s road networks.

B. Evacuation Initiators – Three Primary Initiators

- 1) Spontaneous & “Shadow” Evacuees.
- 2) Local initiated.
- 3) State initiated.

C. Implementation Process

The decision to evacuate and the decision to implement traffic management procedures are interrelated but not wholly interdependent. In the event of a decision by a neighboring state to evacuate, primarily North Carolina, it may be necessary to implement traffic management strategies due to the impact on Virginia road networks. These strategies may also be implemented in anticipation of a decision to implement a mandatory evacuation.

- 1) The decision to order mandatory evacuation rests with the Governor.
- 2) The ultimate determination of specific locations and timing of evacuations will be accomplished at the local level.

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), in coordination with applicable state agencies and affected local governments, will assess the need for executing traffic management strategies. VDEM will order the actual implementation of these strategies by state agencies. It is probable that strategies may be implemented ahead of actual evacuation decisions by the localities depending on external influences.

Some incidences, involving large populations, limited evacuation timing and road network capacities, may necessitate termination of an evacuation prior to its full completion and evacuees still at risk would be directed to “refuges of last resort” as quickly as possible along the evacuation corridor.

V. TECHNICAL DATA REPORT

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (*USACE*) published a new Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Study Technical Data Report in December, 2009. Although a new Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Study is nearing completion, the 1992 data remains the “data of record” until completion of the new study. The new Technical Data Report (*TDR*) will provide the following information for each coastal locality to serve as a basis for hurricane planning.

- 1) Large-scale digital maps that define areas to be evacuated from storm surge inundation.
 - 2) Clearance time--the time required for evacuees traveling out of the region to clear the study area.
 - 3) Standard “decision arc” methodology for analyzing any given storm and assisting in the decision making process to determine when to evacuate.
 - 4) An inventory of public shelter facilities in coastal localities.
- A.** The risk areas include the city of Virginia Beach and the Eastern Shore on the Atlantic Ocean, the Hampton Roads port area, the southern half of the Chesapeake Bay and the tidal peninsulas formed by the James, York, Rappahannock, and Potomac Rivers. The continental shelf and the shallow bay, with its tidal rivers, create a situation conducive to high storm surges. Tidal surge associated with a major hurricane could cause a maximum inundation of more than 23 feet above sea level on the eastern or ocean side of the Eastern Shore and 18+ feet in the port area of Hampton Roads, in addition to the accumulated effects of tide, waves and rainfall.
- B.** More than 1,600,000 persons live in the Hampton Roads region. The total number (*in potential storm inundation areas and mobile homes*) who may be advised to evacuate their immediate residence and seek safer locations due to an approaching hurricane ranges from approximately 200,000 to 1,200,000 depending upon the severity of the storm. In addition, tourist occupancy during the peak summer season, primarily in Virginia Beach and Norfolk may exceed an additional 100,000. Persons without personal transportation within the region are estimated to be at 50,000 and plans are currently under development within each locality to address their evacuation.
- C.** The Hampton Roads region is especially vulnerable to a fast approaching hurricane because of its relatively dense population and its limited evacuation routes. Outbound traffic is likely to be backed up and move very slowly. For example, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Evacuation Study estimates that the worst case scenario clearance time for the most vulnerable areas of the Hampton Roads Region during the tourist season would be approximately **61 hours**. This time can be reduced to approximately **38 hours** utilizing Lane Reversal for designated areas referenced in the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.

Technical Data Report - Continued

- D. Local officials must be prepared to make a timely decision to evacuate, allowing sufficient time for evacuees to clear the area and travel away from the coast before the arrival of tropical storm force winds.

In Hampton Roads there are three distinct evacuation populations:

- 1) Those that seek public shelter in their city/county, including some of those without personal transportation.
- 2) Those that seek shelter in local hotels or private homes.
- 3) Those that leave the city/county to seek shelter in inland localities.

Evacuees in the last group may end up staying in public shelters and in inland localities including some of those without personal transportation mentioned above.

These groups present different problems for local and state emergency planners.

- E. Local government should provide shelter, feeding, medical care, counseling, and security for the evacuees who seek shelter in public shelters. The government should develop a comprehensive shelter plan that provides adequate space, resources, and staff for the maximum number of evacuees for at least 72 hours. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (*USACE*) report indicated the shelter space was generally adequate in the coastal areas for the demand of a CAT 1 and CAT 2 sheltering event. Most shelters are operated under American Red Cross (*ARC*) Guidelines and this has resulted in a shelter deficiency within the Hampton Roads area for CAT 3 and CAT 4 events. (*See Basic Plan– Hurricane Evacuation Study Locality Data*)
- F. Local government should plan to rely on its own resources for the days immediately following the storm. Disaster relief resources from throughout the country will generally begin to arrive in the devastated area by the third day after landfall. Therefore, local planning efforts should concentrate on preparing checklists, surveying shelters, develop plans for relocating those without transportation, designating and training staff, identifying mitigation and recovery resources, pre-scripting public services announcements, and other activities that will prepare the government and the population to “ride out” the storm and its immediate aftermath.
- G. The second group of evacuees relocates to the homes of friends or in hotels within their locality. After the storm, however, they may need extended shelter if their homes are damaged or utilities are disrupted.
- H. The third group of evacuees (*residents and vacationers that leave the coastal area, including some of those that may not have transportation which the locality has relocated to yet to be determined locations*) present different challenges. The foremost issue is transportation. The USACE study estimates the number of vehicles that will be on the roads during an evacuation phase and attempts to determine “clearance times” for the Hampton Roads Region. The clearance time is the time it takes to clear roadways of all evacuating traffic. (*See Appendix B-I, Evacuation Clearance Times*)

Technical Data Report - Continued

- I. What becomes of the traffic heading out of the coastal area is dependent upon many factors. As part of the Transportation Analysis included in the 2009 Technical Data Report; interviews with coastal residents who have previously evacuated indicated that most of them reached their destination in less than 1.5 hours. If the evacuation notice is issued with plenty of advance time and daylight hours to travel, residents will reach a safe destination. However, if daylight hours for evacuation are limited, or the evacuation routes become clogged, there may be thousands of evacuees stranded along the highways. Therefore, planners must prepare for the possibility those local governments and commercial hotels many miles inland from the threatened area may have to provide short-term sheltering and other human services for coastal evacuees.
- J. Although there are hotels and motels along the evacuation routes, there are not enough rooms to accommodate all evacuees. During the summer, hotels and motels in non-coastal Virginia are about 75 percent full. Those vacationers are not likely to vacate their rooms because of threatening weather off the coast. Therefore, additional shelter spaces will be needed.
- K. Evacuees will be advised via the media during the evacuation of available shelter areas.
- L. It is not expected that State Managed Shelter capabilities will be required for more than 7 days. Evacuees, to include those in State Managed Shelters, will be returning to their homes; or if their homes are not habitable, will seek lodging closer to their homes. Local public shelters, in or near the area of impact, will remain open for longer-term care as needed.
- M. Hospitals, nursing homes, and group residential facilities operated by private or public agencies are required by license to have emergency plans. If they are located in the potential storm surge inundation area, they should have arranged to relocate to a like-facility in a safer area. Otherwise, they should be prepared with their own backup power source, a potable water supply, and backup communications to shelter in place and be self-sufficient for 3 or more days.

VI. RISK AREAS & PUBLIC SHELTERS

- A. Risk localities open public shelters as part of their preparation for the possible arrival of hurricane-force winds and storm surge flooding. Shelters will operate in accordance with the local Emergency Operations Plans (*EOP's*).
- B. Risk localities advise residents who live in storm surge inundation areas and those who live in mobile homes to seek shelter with friends or relatives, in motels and hotels, or in public shelters.
- C. Risk localities notify the VEOC via Virginia Department of Emergency Management Crisis Management System (*WebEOC*) when shelters have been opened to report the status of shelter spaces and number of persons accommodated.

VII. INLAND LOCALITIES

- A.** The VEOC will keep the inland localities informed of the evacuation and shelter situation in the risk areas.
- B.** When the VEOC has been notified that risk localities are going to order an evacuation, the inland localities will be alerted.
- C.** Inland localities operate public shelters in accordance with their local Emergency Operations Plans (*EOP's*).
- D.** At risk and inland localities will report to the VEOC the status of public shelter spaces and evacuees accommodated every four (4) hours.
- E.** Inland localities will be encouraged to accept evacuees seeking shelter within their locality.

VIII. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The following events are listed generally and may occur in a differing sequence.

- A.** As the storm approaches, the VEOC and local Emergency Operations Centers (*EOC's*) will monitor advisories issued by the National Weather Service/National Hurricane Center.
- B.** The Virginia Evacuation Coordination Team for Emergency Response (*VECTOR*) will meet to monitor the storm and provide recommendations to the State leadership.
- C.** Localities will issue emergency declarations according to weather advisories and as indicated in their local Emergency Operations Plans (*EOP's*)
- D.** Localities will issue emergency preparedness information to the public through the local news media.
- E.** The Governor will declare a State of Emergency and issue an Executive Order authorizing localities to direct an evacuation of potential storm inundation areas.
- F.** The VEOC will notify and update inland localities along the primary evacuation routes of the status of the hurricane and of the evacuation deliberations.
- G.** Spontaneous evacuation will begin to take place from potential storm surge inundation areas. Hospitals, nursing homes, and other special facilities will implement their emergency plans and procedures. Some will relocate and others may prepare to shelter in place and be self-sufficient for several days.
- H.** Each threatened locality will determine when to initiate an evacuation in concert with the VEOC and neighboring localities.

Sequence of Events - Continued

- I.** Upon direction by the Governor, agencies with evacuation or State Managed Shelter (*SMS*) responsibilities will be advised to be prepared to implement the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- J.** Each threatened coastal locality will prepare to open public shelters.
- K.** The VEOC will notify the North Carolina State Emergency Operations Center (*NCEOC*) of the decision to evacuate Coastal Virginia. North Carolina will be prepared, upon request by Virginia State Police (*VSP*), to implement the VA/NC Border Traffic Diversion Plan.
- L.** Localities, in consultation with each other and with the VEOC, will issue evacuation directives.
- M.** Agencies with evacuation responsibilities will implement the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- N.** As traffic conditions demand and at the request of *VSP*, North Carolina will implement the VA/NC Border Traffic Diversion Plan.
- O.** Localities, both coastal and those along the primary evacuation routes, will prepare to operate their shelters and “refuges of last resort”, as available.

IX. EVACUATION ROUTES

Based on weather forecast and evacuation logistics timing, the State will determine a specific time to implement the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan. VDOT and Virginia State Police (*VSP*) will restrict access to evacuation routes by placing equipment and personnel at entry points to control the number of vehicles entering at each access point. Local personnel will control traffic on routes leading to the designated evacuation routes.

- A.** VEOC will notify VDOT and *VSP* of the specific time that the traffic restrictions will take effect.
- B.** VEOC will notify all local Emergency Operations Centers (*EOC's*) in the risk area and in the host areas.
- C.** Joint Information Center (*JIC*) will issue evacuation instructions to the public via all available media and VDOT roadside electronic Variable Message Signs, Highway Advisory Radio (*HAR*) and 511 System.
- D.** Local officials will issue advisories and provide traffic control on local roads and streets that access the designated evacuation routes in accordance with local plans.
- E.** VDOT and *VSP* will provide continuous information to the VEOC pertaining to the traffic flow, trouble spots, expected impact on inland traffic, and resource allocation.

Evacuation Routes - Continued

- F.** VEOC-JIC will coordinate and provide information on the location of State Managed Shelters using all available media.
- G.** VEOC-JIC will keep the news media and all localities in the state informed and updated on evacuation and shelter information.
- H.** As the storm approaches, VDOT and VSP, in coordination with local officials and the VEOC will determine when to stop the evacuation before driving becomes hazardous, or prior to sustained tropical storm force winds are expected to affect the evacuation routes.
- I.** When an evacuation is terminated, local officials will be notified by the VEOC to open their local pre-identified refuges of last resorts and direct motorists off of the evacuation routes.
- J.** All state traffic control personnel should be off the roads by the arrival of sustained tropical storm force winds.

X. EVACUATION TERMINATION

With the arrival of sustained tropical storm force winds in Virginia, it will no longer be safe for motorists or emergency workers to be outside in their vehicles. Therefore, each coastal locality should issue a separate “stop evacuation” directive six hours in advance allowing time for the roads to be cleared.

- A.** Local law enforcement officials must then facilitate the movement of persons en route to abandon their plans to evacuate further inland and to seek the best available protection nearby. “Refuges of Last Resort” are recommended to be designated in advance. They are typically public or non-public buildings near evacuation routes, which may withstand storm surge and heavy winds, and may provide a safe haven for a few hours until the storm passes.
- B.** The local broadcast and all other forms of available media will alert en route evacuees when they should seek “refuges of last resort”.
- C.** When a stop evacuation order is given, major evacuation route roadway facilities may be threatened and scheduled for closing very soon. Any residents of potential storm inundation areas who have not yet evacuated must then seek “refuges of last resort” or refuge at other available elevated locations.
- D.** All state and local traffic control personnel and vehicles should also be off the roads by the arrival of tropical storm force winds.

XI. EVACUATION - READINESS CONDITION ACTION CHECKLIST

Readiness Condition 5 - Routine Operations

- 1) Develop Standard Operating Procedures.
- 2) Conduct periodic computer-aided hurricane tracking and evacuation tools program training for local and state officials and periodic evacuation exercises with jurisdictions.
- 3) Localities identify “refuges of last resort” located along evacuation routes.

Readiness Condition 4 - Forecast Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds 144 to 96 Hours

- 1) Establish communications with National Weather Service.
- 2) Review HURREVAC and SLOSH projections from latest advisory from National Hurricane Center.
- 3) Request Emergency Declaration from the Governor
- 4) Governor considers level of evacuation authority for local risk jurisdictions.
- 5) VDSS determines which State Managed Shelter (SMS) facilities to activate, if needed, and provides initial and updated information to JIC as necessary.
- 6) Participate in conference calls to discuss protective actions.
- 7) Continue/complete all Condition 5 activities.

Readiness Condition 3 - Forecasted Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds 96 to 48 Hours

- 1) Maintain communications and review advisories from National Weather Service.
- 2) Review HURREVAC and SLOSH projections from latest National Hurricane Center advisory.
- 3) Participate in conference calls to discuss level of evacuation that may be needed.
- 4) **D-72 Hours**, conduct Governor’s evacuation briefing.
- 5) Coordinate traffic issues and the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan with VDOT and VSP in anticipation of evacuation.
- 6) VSP to monitor and report status of evacuation routes and timing for potential implementation of the VA/NC Border Traffic Diversion Plan.
- 7) Localities should begin issuing evacuation information through the local news media.

Readiness Condition 2 - Forecasted Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds 48 to 24 Hours

- 1) At **48 Hours**, NHC issue Hurricane WATCH for potential impact areas.
- 2) Maintain Communications and review advisories from National Weather Service.
- 3) Review HURREVAC and SLOSH projections from latest advisory from National Hurricane Center.
- 4) At **48 Hours**, Governor to conduct “Mandatory Evacuation” conference call with local officials to discuss State evacuation decisions and timing, to include the implementation of the Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan.
- 5) Jurisdictions advise VEOC of local evacuation decisions and timing.
- 6) VDOT to provide the status of Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Lane Reversal Plan implementation and traffic flows.
- 7) At **38 Hours**, implement mandatory evacuation as directed by the Governor.
- 8) At **36 Hours**, NHC issue Hurricane WARNING for potential impact areas.
- 9) At **36 Hours**, Governor’s lane-reversal “go/no-go” decision point.
- 10) At **30 Hours**, implement lane reversal evacuation as directed by the Governor.
- 11) Update Public Information Officer(s) (*PIO*) of current evacuation status.
- 12) Continue/complete all Condition 3 activities.

Readiness Condition 1 - Forecasted Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds Within 24 Hours

- 1) Maintain Communications and review advisories from National Weather Service.
- 2) Review HURREVAC and SLOSH projections from latest advisory from National Hurricane Center.
- 3) Evacuate coastal areas and residents in mobile homes and storm surge vulnerable areas.
- 4) VDOT and VSP to provide status report on traffic flows and road conditions.
- 5) Participate in conference calls to determine status of Hurricane Lane Reversal activities.
- 6) Update Public Information Officer(s) (*PIO*) of current evacuation status.
- 7) **6 Hours**, prior to the arrival of tropical storm force winds, initiate termination of lane reversal as authorized and directed.
- 8) Participate in conference calls to discuss potential need to terminate evacuation per Virginia Hurricane Lane Reversal Plan no later than 6 hours prior to the arrival of tropical storm force winds.

**Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan
Hurricane Response Plan Volume V**

- 9) If evacuation is not completed within 6 hours of the arrival of tropical storm force winds motorists should be directed to Shelters or Refuges of Last Resort within each jurisdiction along the evacuation routes.
- 10) Continue/complete all Condition 2 activities.

Landfall - Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds thru Departure of Tropical Storm Force Winds

- 1) Maintain Communications and review advisories from National Weather Service.
- 2) Review HURREVAC and SLOSH projections from latest advisory from National Hurricane Center.
- 3) Monitor shelter needs of public safety personnel along evacuation routes.
- 4) Participate in conference calls following the departure of tropical storm force winds for status update.

Emergency Relief Phase - Life Saving Operations & Restoration of Essential Services

- 1) Continue to monitor evacuation conditions until reentry is initiated.
- 2) Begin clearing debris from roads to facilitate reentry where safe conditions exist.
- 3) VSP coordinates with local law enforcement officials to control reentry.

Note: Although coastal localities and the VEOC will be using these hurricane-specific action periods, others, to include inland localities, may not. Inland localities may not have separate hurricane plans, but will use their standard operational periods.

However, the two operational periods are not incompatible. If reference is made to the “hours before the arrival of tropical storm force winds,” local officials in inland localities can make it work within the context of their own checklists.